Police.

Serious crime is rare, and the force of regular police is comparatively small. It includes 3 assistant superintendents, 9 inspectors, 297 subordinate officers, and 1,213 constables, costing about 2·2 lakhs annually. The force is controlled by two Superintendents for the chief provinces of Jammu and Kashmīr. Police duties in the villages are performed by the *chaukīdārs*, who are generally Dums in the Jammu province, and are paid by the villagers. The responsibility of the headman for reporting crime is insisted on. A training school for regular police is maintained, and the system of identifying convicts by thumb impressions has been introduced. In 1904–5, only 2,076 cognizable cases were reported, of which 640, or 30 per cent., ended in conviction.

Jails.

Central jails are maintained at Jammu and at Srīnagar, and seven small jails in outlying places. Both the Central jails are usually overcrowded, the daily average number of prisoners in 1904–5 being 543. The expenditure in the same year was Rs. 47,000 on the Central jails, and Rs. 3,600 on the others; and in 1905–6 a total of Rs. 54,000. Convicts are employed in printing, paper-making, and other minor industries in the Srīnagar jail, and in printing, weaving, and manufacturing industries at Jammu. The receipts for jail manufactures in 1905–6 were Rs. 18,000.

Education.

The Census of 1901 showed how little attention was formerly paid to education. In that year only 2 per cent. of the population could read and write. Among males the proportion rises to 3·8 per cent., while among the total female population only 1,260 were literate. Hindus appear to be much better educated than Muhammadans. In 1900–1 the State maintained 87 schools, attended by 6,197 boys. By 1905–6 the number of State schools had risen to 154, including two high schools, a normal school, 7 Anglo-vernacular and 12 vernacular middle schools, and 133 primary schools. Besides these, 3 girls' schools are maintained by the State at Srīnagar; and there are one aided girls' school at Jammu, two aided high schools and an aided middle school at Srīnagar, and an aided middle school at Jammu. Sanskrit schools attached to the State high schools, one at Jammu and the other at Srīnagar, teach up to the Shāstri standard. The total number of pupils in all the schools was 11,460. The department is under the control of the foreign minister, who is aided by an inspector and two assistant inspectors of schools. There being no State college, 17 scholarships are annually granted by the Darbār to students for prosecuting their studies at colleges at Lahore. Two scholar-

657 State some measures vital to the advancement of the people, such as the
642 Prevention of Infant Marriage Regulation, raising the age of consent to 14 for girls and 18 for boys and the stoppage of female infanticide amongst Rajputs and prohibition of juvenile smoking. Many of the improvements in trade, industry, communications, education, irrigation, sanitation etc. which have already been dealt with owe their origin to his solicitude to see his subjects happy and prosperous.

642 The administration is conducted by His Highness through Ministers (now headed by a Prime Minister) who enjoy large powers in their respective portfolios. His Highness has followed a policy of decentralisation of powers in all branches of administration consistent with efficiency and good Government.

692 **31. Courts.**—The stability and growth of society hinges to a large extent on the efficient and speedy administration of justice through the channel of Judicial Courts and on the enactment of laws conducive to the welfare of the masses. The Census Report is not the proper place to record an account of the various salutary laws passed during the decade as the space is naturally limited and no justice can be done to the subject. As regards the Judicial system of the State it is modelled on the British Indian system of administration of justice with certain important differences such as the exercise of civil and criminal jurisdiction by the same judicial officers and the facilities allowed to litigants to appear personally in the High Court to plead their case. The separation for which a vigorous and persistent demand exists in British India is already in operation here.

The decade has witnessed the formation of a High Court Bench consisting of a Chief Justice and two Judges in supersession of the former system of a single Chief Justice of the High Court. His Highness takes a personal interest in the selection of Judges who can consequently compare favourably with their compeers in British India. The judiciary in the subordinate courts is recruited from amongst qualified hands who are either barristers or graduates of law.

691 The total number of Courts has increased as will be seen in the margin.

692 The number of suits disposed in 1931 comes to 21,904 while the suits
652 filed number 20,641 which is a sure proof of the fact that justice is not deferred but promptly administered. Moreover the spirit of litigation seems on the decline as the number of suits filed in 1921 was 23,009. The expenditure of the Judicial Department has risen from Rs. 510,938 in 1921 to Rs. 648,246 in 1930. The highest expenditure was incurred in 1928 when it came to Rs. 733,302. The total cost of administration of justice for the decade is Rs. 7,008,725.

	Number of Courts.	
	1931.	1921.
Civil Courts ..	80	66
Criminal Courts ..	127	127
Revenue .. exercising criminal powers ..	80	97
Lawyers including Advocates ..	173	177

625 **32. Police.**—The decade has witnessed the augmentation of the Police
652 Force in all ranks and a rise in the status and emoluments of these custodians of public peace and safety. The diagram in the margin will convince the reader of the rapid progress made in the State in this direction. The Executive and the Clerical Staff was separated. The total cost of Police Force in 1930 was Rs. 712,588 compared to Rs. 414,621 in 1920, giving an increase of 71·8 per cent. As regards offences, those against State and public tranquility, murders and other offences against person exhibited an increase, while

	1931
Inspector-General of Police ..	1
Deputy Inspector-General of Police ..	2
Superintendents of Police ..	7
Assistant Superintendents of Police ..	6
Inspectors ..	24
674 Sub-Inspectors ..	40
Head Constables ..	207
Constables ..	2,677